Chestnut Street

17. Southern Bell Building
Chestnut and Armory Streets

This 10-story Art Deco headquarters was built in 1931, one of the rare examples of downtown construction during the Great Depression. The building's strong verticality is balanced by the use of highly decorative, filigree detail. As with many Art Deco buildings, this example is stepped back as it rises in height, again a conscious effort to balance the vertical emphasis.

18. Brennan House
631 South Fifth Street

The Italianate townhouse serves as one of the last vestiges of Victorian residential life in Louisville's downtown. The Brennan family occupied the house for more than a century, collecting furniture and memorabilia reflective of their wealth and social standing. Donated in 1969 to The Filson Club, the house provides a singular experience of urban life a century ago. In 1982 it was opened as a historic house museum.

19. Louisville Medical College / U of L School of Medicine
101 West Chestnut Street

Perhaps the city's most significant Richardsonian Romanesque structure, this Clarke and Loomis designed stone building is marked by heavy arches, rough-faced stone lintels, steep gables and a substantial corner tower.

Broadway

20. Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary / Jefferson Community College
109 East Broadway

This Collegiate Gothic quadrangle was designed by McDonald and Dodd and built between 1903-1909. It consists of six buildings set in a U-shape around a courtyard and highlighted by towers, crenelations, lancet arched windows, trefoils and quatrefoils.

21. Brown Hotel
Fourth Avenue and Broadway

This 15-story, 700-room hotel enterprise of businessman J. Graham Brown opened in 1923. It included a lavish lobby, elegant ballroom and four restaurants. The hotel served as a major commercial establishment on Broadway until its sponsor's death in 1971. A major redevelopment effort termed the Broadway Project in the 1980s enabled the Brown Hotel to once again anchor the corner of Fourth and Broadway.

22. Louisville Free Public Library
301 West York Street

The Carnegie Foundation funded this and neighborhood branch libraries at the turn of the 20th century. This building, designed by George Tachau and Lewis Pilcher, is a representative example of Beaux Arts Classicism. Its paired, fluted Ionic columns, heavy carved frieze, and bracketed cornice are in strong contrast to the plain, unadorned walls.

23. Memorial Auditorium
970 South Fourth Street

Designed by New York architect Thomas Hastings in 1927, this Beaux Arts monument to WWI victims features a domed auditorium ceiling, arched tribunes and side galleries. The massive Doric-columned portico is topped by an ornate frieze above which are a rhythmic band of egg-and-dart molding and sculpted lions' heads.